

with me on this legislation and for bringing the legislation to the floor today.

Congressman Gray was born and raised in West Frankfort, Illinois. He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1954, serving through 1974. In 1984, Ken ran again and was elected to the House and served two more terms.

When I was elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, Kenny Gray was very helpful to me. We worked together and fought to improve housing, education, and to bring jobs to southern Illinois. We, of course, continue that fight today with my colleagues in the Illinois delegation.

Prior to his tenure in Congress, Congressman Gray earned three Bronze Stars for his service in World War II. He also owned a car dealership and operated an air service in Benton, Illinois.

After retiring in 1988, Ken remained active in community affairs, serving on several boards and heading up many local projects to further economic growth in our region. Naming this post office after Kenny Gray will serve as a lasting reminder of his accomplishments in Southern Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring our former colleague and friend by supporting this legislation.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague from North Carolina for the time.

I want to commend my colleague, Congressman COSTELLO, for bringing this forward, and of course my colleague from Chicago, Chairman DAVIS, for helping get this bill on the floor.

In Southern Illinois everyone knows Ken Gray. In this environment it's always hard to figure out with past Congresses, but he is admired and adored and lovingly called the "Prince of Pork" for a couple of reasons, probably a lot more than I even know since I'm a youngster to this institution, but for helping President Eisenhower pass the Federal highway transportation bill, which brought the interstate highway system, and then lobbying diligently to make sure that those routes came through Southern Illinois.

And although Southern Illinois continues to struggle along the interstate routes that are part of my district and part of Congressman COSTELLO's district where there are jobs and economic activity, they are around the hubs of the interstate highway system. So he does get great credit for that. Also, a major lake, Rend Lake, is there that provides water for much of the communities of Southern Illinois. And that was all part of his due diligence and his activity.

I also like the story, being a veteran, of Ken Gray lying about his age, going

into the war, and then serving honorably in World War II and being awarded three Bronze Stars for his service.

He is quite the character. People who know him and have served with him can tell you some quite colorful stories. He has welcomed me in the institution as a colleague. I look to him for advice and counsel when I get into the deep part of Southern Illinois.

I think this is a fitting tribute. I thank my colleague, Congressman COSTELLO, for bringing it forward. I implore and ask my colleagues to support the naming of this post office.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Congressman Kenneth J. Gray, formerly an esteemed Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, has been a life long son of Illinois. Born in West Frankfort on November 14, 1924, Congressman Gray was a graduate of West Frankfort Community High School and owner of Gray Motors in West Frankfort. He served in the Second World War for two years until discharged in 1945 as a first sergeant and three bronze star recipient for his service.

After returning from the war, Congressman Gray became active in his community and was one of the founders of the Walking Dog Foundation for the Blind and an active leader in the American Legion.

In the same district where Mr. Gray served as the Commander of the American Legion, he was encouraged to run against the incumbent Congressman as many thought that the issues affecting the veterans of southern Illinois were being overlooked.

While running for Congress for the first time in 1954, his campaign slogan was "a fighting man for a fighting job," which he lived up to during the 11 Congressional terms he served the citizens of the 25th District of Illinois. He ran on the platform of change for the people in his District. Southern Illinois was suffering a period of high unemployment at the time Mr. Gray was running for Congress. After his election, he set about meeting the challenges of getting the 30,000 unemployed people back to work.

He was placed on the Public Works Committee at the beginning of his first term, where he was able to shed light on the plight of his constituents and worked to get projects directed to his District. Congressman Gray became known throughout his career as a man who, in his words, wouldn't roll down his sleeves until the job was done. To this day, he has not rolled down his sleeves and continues to get things done. You can see his footprints on such things as hospitals, schools, and federal buildings.

Because of Congressman Gray's many accomplishments on behalf of the citizens of Southern Illinois as well as the entire country, it is very fitting that we would designate the naming of the West Frankfort Post Office after Congressman Gray. We wish Congressman Gray well during his illness and thank him for his life-long service to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, obviously I rise in strong support of H.R. 6061, which designates the East Main Street post office facility in West

Frankfort, Illinois, after one of our former colleagues and Member of Congress, Representative Kenneth James Gray.

Representative COSTELLO sponsored this measure to show appreciation and gratitude for the service former Representative Gray exhibited toward his constituents and the country.

H.R. 6061 would dedicate the post office located in Representative Gray's former congressional district. I am pleased to join with Representatives COSTELLO and SHIMKUS and other members of the delegation in urging passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6061.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ANTHONY LYNN WOODHAM

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a brave American soldier who sacrificed his life for freedom, SFC Anthony Lynn Woodham from Rogers, Arkansas.

A mechanic assigned to the Arkansas National Guard Delta Company, 39th Brigade Support Battalion, 39th Brigade Combat Team of Heber Springs, Anthony put himself in harm's way to make this world a better place.

His commitment to this country is second to none. Anthony considered his service an honor, first enlisting in 1989, and re-enlisting after he returned from his deployment in 2005. He died Saturday, 6 months shy of 20 years in the military. He will be remembered as a soldier, a son, a husband and a father who cared about everyone around him. His wife Crystal describes Anthony as a loving husband and great father.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony is a true American hero. I ask that my colleagues keep his family and friends in their thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.